

President's Sustainability Committee

Minutes

October 17th, 2016, 1:00-2:30 pm

TILT 104

Members Present: Carol Dollard – Facilities Management
Tonie Miyamoto - Housing and Dining Services, Student Affairs
Stacey Baumgarn - Facilities Management and Classified Personnel Council
Bill Timpson – College of Health and Human Sciences
Mark Ritschard – College of Engineering
Kirstie Tedrick – STARS Intern
Tony Rappe – College of Natural Sciences
Hanna Johnson – ASCSU
Aleta Weller – SoGES
Ann Bohm Small – Administrative Professional Council
Jake Drenth – Surplus Property
Paul Doherty – Faculty Council
Brian Dunbar – Institute for the Built Environment
Neyda Gilman – Library
Farrah Bustamante – Procurement Services
Tim Broderick – Housing and Dining Services
Aaron Fodge – Parking and Transportation Services
Andrew Warnock – College of Natural Sciences Education and Outreach Center

1. Strategic Plan

- a. Tonie announced that the PSC's Strategic Plan has been approved by Cabinet.
- b. The Cabinet asked a lot of questions during the presentation but didn't give any further feedback.
- c. The document will be available online at green.colostate.edu

2. Awards and Accolades

- a. CSU was recently ranked at #4 on the *Princeton Review's* list of top Green Universities.
- b. This is the highest Princeton Review rating for CSU.
- c. OnlineCollegePlan.com has also ranked CSU the #1 top greenest colleges out of 20 colleges total.
- d. AASHE has also ranked CSU as a top performer in 5 categories in its annual Campus Sustainability Index.
- e. All of these accolade will be featured on green.colostate.edu

3. Research Subcommittee Strategic Plan Updates – Aleta Weller

- a. The academic and research subgroups of the PSC wanted to update the progress they have made to their strategic planning goals.
- b. The subgroup split into two - education and research.
 - i. Education and research have different goals so it made sense to divide the group.
 - ii. The subcommittees expanded to include faculty members from 7 of 8 colleges.
 - iii. Some colleges had multiple members to better represent the different research initiatives within the college.
- c. The research subcommittee met with other interdisciplinary consortiums and has committed a lot of time and effort.
- d. After a lot of discussion and consideration, the research subcommittee developed a "menu" of options for enhancing sustainability related research on campus. This "menu" was submitted to the council of associate deans for research.
- e. All of the options proposed were selected to overcome barriers to interdisciplinary sustainability research.
- f. The menu of options is not a funding request.
- g. The options fell into 3 main categories -
 - i. Expand and Improve Current Programs

- ii. Incentivize New Programs
 - iii. Excellence Recognition
- h. Recommendations from “Expand and Improve Current Programs”–
 - i. Promoting existing programs with increase communication.
 - ii. Increase in program funding levels.
 - iii. Increase seed grants.
 - iv. Identify and network opportunities and programmatic strengths.
- i. Recommendations from “Incentivize New” -
 - i. Create joint postdoc opportunity. Harvard has a similar program in which the postdocs gain experience and faculty get research completed quickly.
 - ii. Streamline the proposal process with more support staff, teaching releases, and wider distribution, support staff.
 - iii. Create trans-institutional work. This could be a streamlined mechanism to collaborate with other universities and state institutions, working on sustainability research.
- j. Recommendations from “Excellence” -
 - i. Give awards for sustainability research.
 - ii. Give incentives at the department and college level. These incentives might affect tenure and promotions for faculty involved in sustainability research.
 - iii. Engage more support staff for the translation and dissemination of research.
- k. The full plan of the research subcommittee will be distributed to the whole PSC soon.

4. Education Subcommittee Strategic Plan Goals – Tony Rappe

- a. The education subcommittee recognized that the only points lost in the academic category of STARS lost was within learning outcomes. There must be a university-wide learning outcome related to sustainability for every CSU student for full points.
- b. The subcommittee recommends that sustainability content be infused into AUCC rather than adding new courses and learning objectives.
- c. The subcommittee reviewed the list of sustainability related courses and found that only two courses from the College of Natural Sciences were listed.
 - i. Potentially, courses that should be included are missing from this list.
 - ii. Some professors are interested in sustainability and would add it to their courses but cannot get up to speed.
 - iii. Textbooks for sustainability within physics, chemistry, and math don’t exist.
- d. The subcommittee recommends that the infusion of sustainability begin in math courses.
 - i. There are several STEM Education grants that could help this project.
 - ii. PACE, an online math course system, is undergoing an revision which gives an opportunity to change the coursework to include sustainability.
 - iii. A team of faculty within Math, Statistics, and the School of Education are drafting a proposal for this revision to add sustainability related content.
 - iv. This is a big opportunity to impact many students.
 - v. Many students care about sustainability and this revision will allow students to see sustainability topics through the lens of mathematics.
- e. Tony believes this can be a successful program. The provost has given enthusiastic feedback.
- f. He will report back to the PSC as the program develops.

5. Mode Split Review – Aaron Fodge

- a. Aaron shared the results of the mode split survey, which is an annual survey released in February to understand the different modes of transportation that faculty, staff, and students use to get to and from campus.
- b. 1,104 people out of 4,000 responded.
- c. Overall, 55% of the respondents use a personal vehicle as primary transportation, while 14% use the bus, 13% walk, and 13% bicycle.

- d. Many variables are driving these transportation habits. The rising cost of parking permits, neighborhood parking permits, the MAX line, and construction routes are all contributing to the changes in modes of transportation.
- e. Aaron recognized that the students are the primary user group that is actively changing transportation habits. Faculty and staff have more improvements to make.
- f. The survey also asked respondents if they were carrying a child in the car with them, where they go after work, etc. to understand other factors within the choice to drive to campus.
- g. The larger survey will be distributed to the committee for detailed review.

6. STARS Credit Update – Tonie Miyamoto

- a. The data collection for the STARS report is happening now.
- b. Some credits needing more information includes –
 - i. Graduate students participating in orientation activities related to sustainability.
 - ii. Total number of faculty and staff undergoing sustainability training.
 - iii. Community service hours as part of course requirements. Some of this data was tracked within TILT but the number was so low that it might not be correct.
 - iv. Innovation credits include APLU Economic Prosperity project, National Western Center Complex, and Tree Campus USA.
- c. The non-credit course database email will be sent to department chairs very soon.
- d. The sustainability culture survey will also be released soon.

7. Updates from Members

Neyda Gilman – Neyda is leaving CSU and she will find a different library representative to serve on the PSC. Also, the Institutional Repository in Morgan Library is building a collection of sustainability related documents for public availability. If you have any documents you would like to contribute to this collection, please contact the Morgan Library.

Brian Dunbar – The WELL Building Standard is starting to gain acknowledgement and Brian is actively participating in the dialogue. This is a similar system to LEED, with an emphasis on people.

Andrew Warnock– Andrew will send Tonie and Carol a link to the Green Monday program that other universities use in their dining halls.

Tim Broderick– The second half of the Green Warrior program has begun. 1,148 students have participated and the program is effective so far.

Hanna Johnson – Hanna is working on developing a campus wide sustainability forum in December.

Next Meeting – Monday November 14th, 2016 – 1:00-2:30 pm in TILT 104.